**Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade**
Additional estimates 2006–2007; February 2007
Answers to questions on notice from Defence Housing Authority

**Question 1**

**Monitoring use of water in departments and agencies**

**Senator Wong**

(1) Is there any requirement to provide details of how much water is used and how much water is saved in the annual reports of each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

(2) Is water usage monitored for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

(3) What is the water usage for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

(4) For each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, can information be provided on whether dual flush toilets are in place in the buildings they occupy?

**Answer:**

1) **Is there any requirement to provide details of how much water is used and how much water is saved in the annual reports of each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?**

   *Pursuant to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, DHA is, as a Commonwealth Authority, required to produce an Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) and environment report as part of its Annual Report. There is no specific requirement to provide details of water usage and savings.*

   *DHA is progressively upgrading the range of information on environmental matters in its Annual Report taking into account the ESD Reporting Guidelines published by Environment Australia in 2003, which recommends inclusion in agencies' annual reports of the activities of the organisation that may impact on the environment, including the office use of water.*

2) **Is water usage monitored for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?**

   *Water usage is not monitored by DHA for the houses provided for Australian Defence Force (ADF) members. ADF members are charged a 'water fee' by the Department of Defence, which is reviewed annually and administered by the Department of Defence.*

   *DHA leases, rather than owns, the offices in which it is accommodated. As such the responsibility for monitoring of and payment for water usage rests with the relevant building owner. In some jurisdictions, a component of water usage is contained within a water rates charge. Elsewhere, owners simply charge an amount to DHA under the category of 'lease outgoings'. In the main, details of usage and associated charges are not separately identified.*

*All DHA staff are encouraged to minimise water use, and the DHA Environmental Management System policy provides guidelines designed to promote responsible water usage by DHA and its staff.*

**3) What is the water usage for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?**

*As advised in the response to question 2, specific details of water consumption are not generally advised to DHA.*

**4) For each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, can information be provided on whether dual flush toilets are in place in the buildings they occupy?**

*Dual flush toilets are in place in the Canberra Head Office and in most DHA Regional Offices. Those properties that do not have dual flush toilets are generally older properties where the installation of dual-flush toilets is at the discretion of the building owner in line with local authority and local government rules and regulations. DHA encourages building owners to install dual flush toilets where not already installed.*

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**Question 2**

**Grant programs**

**Senator Ludwig**

With regard to all grants allocated by the department/agency from 1 January 2002, could a table detailing the following information be provided:

a. the name of the grant program;
b. the name of the grant recipient;
c. the ABN of the grant recipient (where available);
d. the amount awarded;
e. the date the grant was awarded;
f. the state of the grant recipient; and
g. the postcode of the grant recipient.

**Answer:**

Defence Housing Australia (DHA) provides sponsorship under its Community Relations Sponsorship Program in the form of monetary donations and promotional products to our stakeholder organisations and local communities.

The key objectives of the program are to:

- provide assistance to our customers and related community organisations in ways that enhance and are consistent with DHA's missions and goals;
- generate media and promotional opportunities for DHA and the organisations that we support through the program;
- cater for a balanced mix of local, state, and national opportunities for DHA to engage the wider community; and
- give support for both ongoing relationships with organisations and events, as well as 'one-off' activities.

DHA's sponsorship program was introduced in 2003. The table below outlines those donations and gifts given for the financial periods: 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07.

**Financial year 2006-07 Total sponsorship - $14,060**

| Program | Recipient | ABN of recipient *If applicable* | Amount | Month | Year | State of grant | PCode |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| RAAF Base Family Day | Family Community Centre Inc, RAAF Base Townsville | 40 117 675 929 | $50 | 11 November | 2006 | QLD | 4810 |
| RAAF Base Family Day | Family Community Centre Inc, RAAF Base Townsville | 40 117 675 929 | $50 | 25 November | 2006 | QLD | 4810 |
| RAAF Base Family Day | Family Community Centre Inc, RAAF Base Townsville | 40 117 675 929 | $50 | 16 December | 2006 | QLD | 4810 |
| Australian Defence Force Charity Ball | Australian Defence Force Charity Ball<br>Paid to: E-Kiddna Events | 86 135 880 988 | $1500 | 10 November | 2006 | QLD | 4000 |
| Services Day Golf Tournament | Donation to legacy<br>Paid to: Royal Canberra Golf Club | 25 008 390 225 | $350 | 4 November | 2006 | ACT | 2600 |
| Defence Forces Cup Day | Queanbeyan Racing | 77 003 980 872 | $660 | 30 September | 2006 | NSW | 2620 |
| Golden Casket Special Kids Christmas Party | Variety charity | 51 066 959 546 | $220 | 4 November | 2006 | QLD | 4810 |
| Koch for Kids Festival | Dr Edward Koch Foundation | 19 078 012 576 | $180 | 21 October | 2006 | QLD | 4817 |
| 'Illumination dinner' | Breast Cancer Foundation | 60 497 761 603 | $2500 | 28 September | 2006 | NSW | 2000 |
| Legacy – Army in Concert | NT Legacy | 38 449 530 211 | $1500 | 14 October | 2006 | NT | 0801 |
| RAAF Base Christmas Treat | RAAF Base, Richmond | 94 798 291 859 | $5000 | 24 & 25 November | 2006 | NSW | 2755 |
| CITC Training Excellence Awards | ACT Regional Building & Construction Industry Training Council | 72 005 223 087 | $2000 | 21 July | 2006 | ACT | 2602 |

**Financial year 2005-06** **Total sponsorship - $37,398.85**

| Program | Recipient | ABN of recipient *If applicable* | Amount | Month | Year | State of grant | PCode |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Channel Seven Special Children's Christmas Party | Variety charity | 51 066 959 546 | $2750 | 3 May | 2006 | NT | 0800 |
| Australian Navy Cadets – TS Perth | Training Ship Perth – Australian Navy | 53 418 442 639 | $6500 | May | 2006 | WA | 6066 |
| Katherine Flood | Katherine Town Council | 47 836 889 865 | $5000 | May | 2006 | NT | 0851 |
| Make A Wish Foundation – a day at Stirling Base | Make A Wish Foundation | 97 006 497 632 | $500 | 28 April | 2006 | WA | 6008 |
| DCO Welcome Day, Puckapunyal | Defence Community Organisation<br>Paid to: Storybook Farm | 85 584 262 673 | $450 | 21 May | 2006 | VIC | 3662 |
| DCO Welcome Day, Liverpool | Defence Community Organisation<br>Paid to: JoJ's entertainment | 29 266 262 400 | $429 | 16 March | 2006 | NSW | 2749 |
| DCO Welcome Day, Richmond | Defence Community Organisation | ABN not applicable | $400 | 11 March | 2006 | NSW | 2753 |
| Legacy Day | Royal Canberra Golf Club | 25 008 390 225 | $400 | 13 March | 2006 | ACT | 2600 |
| ACT Bushfire Memorial | Chief Ministers Department | 65 473 927 828 | $10,000 | 18 January | 2006 | ACT | 2600 |
| Services Day Golf Tournament | Donation to legacy<br>Paid to: Royal Canberra Golf Club | 25 008 390 225 | $350 | 12 November | 2005 | ACT | 2600 |
| HMAS Albatross Children's Christmas Party | HMAS Albatross Welfare Committee | 12 169 431 041 | $2142.85 | 8 December | 2005 | NSW | 2540 |
| Defence Families of Australia 'Belong 2006' | Defence Families Australia<br>Paid to: Gecko Gang | 89 964 383 228 | $1117 | 12 February | 2006 | ACT | 2619 |
| RAAF Base Richmond Children's Christmas Treat | RAAF Base Richmond<br>Paid to: Amusement Hire Services | 30 068 159 802 | $1000 | 2 December | 2005 | NSW | 2142 |
| Defence Cup Queanbeyan Racing | Queanbeyan Racing | 77 003 980 872 | $660 | 1 October | 2005 | NSW | 2620 |
| Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway - educational booklet | Kokoda Track Memorial | 43 081 954 592 | $5000 | August | 2005 | NSW | 2137 |
| Kirwan State High School - sporting event (heavily populated by Defence children) | Kirwan State High School | 37 574 965 472 | $200 | August | 2005 | QLD | 4817 |
| Australian Army Band VP Day concert | Legacy, NT<br>Australian Army Band, Darwin | 38 449 530 211 | $500 | July | 2005 | NT | 0800 |

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**Financial year 04-05 Total sponsorship - $40,834**

| Program | Recipient | ABN of recipient *If applicable* | Amount | Month | Year | State of grant | PCode |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Duntroon Preschool – donation of new chairs | Allen Main Memorial Preschool | 11 486 190 559 | $500 | June | 2005 | ACT | 2600 |
| Relay for Life | Anti Cancer Foundation of South Australia | 29 053 873 822 | $250 | April | 2005 | SA | 5000 |
| DCO Welcome Day, Richmond | Defence Community Organisation<br>Paid to: Juz Kidz Castles | 15 677 516 412 | $250 | February | 2005 | NSW | 2607 |
| The Australian Army Pilbara Regiment Memorial | Pilbara Regiment | 70 618 438 039 | $1000 | February | 2005 | WA | 6714 |
| Puckapunyal and District Neighbourhood Centre Inc | Puckapunyal and District Neighbourhood Centre Inc<br>Paid to: Goulburn Sand and Gravel | 83 100 104 738 | $1914 | January | 2005 | VIC | 3660 |
| Defence Families Australia 'Belong 05' | Defence Families Australia<br><br>Paid to The Gecko Gang | 89 964 383 228 | $1620 | February | 2005 | ACT | 2619 |
| TS Canning Australian Navy Cadets Fundraising Dinner | TS Canning Australian Navy Cadets | 18 269 577 188 | $450 | December | 2004 | WA | 6000 |
| Special Children's Christmas Party | Variety charity | 51 066 959 546 | $1100 | December | 2004 | NT | 0800 |
| Australian Army (Randwick Barracks) 'Northern Santa' – Darwin hospital | Australian Army (Randwick Barracks) | ABN not applicable | $300 | December | 2004 | NT | 0800 |
| Australian Air Force Cadets Graduation Dinner | Australian Air Force Cadets<br>Paid to: Katherine Club Inc | 60 884 614 930 | $1000 | November | 2004 | NT | 0853 |
| Services Day Golf Tournament | Donation to legacy<br>Paid to: Royal Canberra Golf Club | 25 008 390 225 | $300 | November | 2004 | ACT | 2600 |
| RAAF Base Tindal Sergeants Mess Christmas Draw | RAAF Base Tindal supporting Red Cross, Rocky Ridge Nursing Homes and Legacy. | 82 701 889 121 | $300 | November | 2004 | NT | 0850 |
| Multipurpose Environmental Walking Track, Puckapunyal | Puckapunyal and District Neighbourhood Centre | 21 614 729 817 | $3000 | November | 2004 | VIC | 3662 |
| Defence Special Needs Support Group Awareness Day, Richmond | Defence Special Needs Support Group | ABN not applicable | $75 | September | 2004 | NSW | 2753 |
| SA Housing Industry Association Housing Awards | Housing Industry Association | 99 004 631 752 | $1375 | September | 2004 | SA | 5007 |
| Kokoda Memorial Track | Returned and Services League of Australia (RSL) NSW | 43 081 954 592 | $30,000 | September | 2004 | NSW | 2212 |
| Ian Chill Fund | Ian Chill Fund | ABN not applicable | $1000 | August | 2004 | QLD | 4810 |
| Defence National Sporting Championships, NT | NT Defence Lawn Bowls team | 91 528 240 616 | $250 | August | 2004 | NT | 0853 |
| RAAF Members Fundraising Ride for Cancer | Children's Cancer Institute of Australia (CCIA) Bike Ride | 41 072 279 559 | $500 | July | 2004 | QLD | 4810 |

**Financial year 03-04** **Total sponsorship - $26,686**

| Program | Recipient | ABN of recipient *If applicable* | Amount | Month | Year | State of grant | PCode |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DSNSG 'Circus Quirkus' | Defence Special Needs Support Group | ABN is unavailable | $150 | May | 2004 | VIC | 3690 |
| Legacy Charity Golf Day | Legacy | ABN is unavailable | $200 | May | 2004 | NT | 0800 |
| Tindal Preschool – playground equipment | Tindal Preschool | 36 388 936 710 | $750 | May | 2004 | NT | 0853 |
| Special Children's Christmas party | Variety charity | 51 066 959 546 | $1100 | April | 2004 | NT | 0800 |
| Young Injured Soldiers Project Lunch | Young Injured Soldiers Project | ABN is unavailable | $1100 | April | 2004 | QLD | 4000 |
| Rotary Youth off the Streets charity bike ride | Rotary Club | ABN is unavailable | $500 | March | 2004 | QLD | 4000 |
| Operation Bunny Hop | 1st Brigade, Palmerston, NT | ABN is unavailable | $500 | March | 2004 | NT | 0800 |
| ACT Relay for Life | Cancer Council | 33 133 296 601 | $1000 | March | 2004 | ACT | 2600 |
| Defence Special Needs Family Day | Defence Special Needs Support Group | ABN is unavailable | $250 | March | 2004 | QLD | 4810 |
| Tindal Preschool – playground equipment | Tindal Preschool | 36 388 936 710 | $1000 | March | 2004 | NT | 0853 |
| Relay for Life | Anti Cancer Foundation of WA | ABN is unavailable | $1625 | February | 2004 | WA | 6000 |
| FABRIC – supporting Defence families with special needs | Defence Special Needs Support Group | ABN is unavailable | $250 | December | 2003 | ACT | 2600 |
| RAAF Base Pool – shade cloth | RAAF Base Pool | 67 137 724 761 | $5,483 | December | 2003 | NT | 0853 |
| HMAS Albatross Children's Christmas party | HMAS Albatross Welfare Committee | 12 169 431 041 | $2500 | November | 2003 | NSW | 2540 |
| RAAF base Glenbrook Christmas Treat for Children | RAAF Base Glenbrook | 54 089 562 239 | $250 | November | 2003 | NSW | 2000 |
| Katherine South Primary School – facilities upgrade | Katherine South Primary School | 36 388 936 710 | $1000 | November | 2003 | NT | 0853 |
| RAAF Tindal Christmas Treat | RAAF Base Tindal Welfare | 67 131 724 761 | $300 | November | 2003 | NT | 0853 |
| DSNG Chatter-Box | Defence Special Needs Support Group | 68 090 485 608 | $2500 | October | 2003 | VIC | 3000 |
| HIA Award | Housing Industry Association | 99 004 631 752 | $1628 | September | 2003 | SA | 5000 |
| Legacy Fun Run | Legacy | ABN is unavailable | $2000 | September | 2003 | QLD | 4000 |
| Simpson Desert bike ride | Paraplegic Benefit Fund | 39 521 178 651 | $500 | September | 2003 | ACT | 2600 |
| RAAF Base Richmond Children's Christmas Treat | RAAF Base Richmond Welfare Committee | 81 972 737 656 | $1000 | September | 2003 | NSW | 2607 |
| Duntroon Community Centre | Duntroon Community Centre | 87 239 680 328 | $1100 | September | 2003 | ACT | 2600 |

**Question 3**

**Opinion polls/ market research**

**Senator Wong**

(1) What sum was spent on opinion polls, focus groups or market research in 2006 by each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

*Defence Housing Australia does not conduct opinion polls, focus groups or market research on members of the Australian public. Surveys of our ADF members, Department of Defence and lessors are conducted to measure satisfaction, gain feedback and assist DHA in meeting their business objectives.*

(2) Will the Ministers provide a list of the opinion polls, focus groups, or market research agencies that are used by department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio?

*Not applicable (see answer to question 1)*

(3) How much of the opinion polls, focus groups or market research expenditure of agencies or departments was conducted at the request of the Minister's office?

*Not applicable (see answer to question 1)*

(4) What benefit-cost assessments have been done which assess the returns from opinion polls, focus groups or market research?

*Not applicable (see answer to question 1)*

**Question 4**

**Advertising campaigns**

**Senator Wong**

(1) What sum was spent on each of the active advertising campaigns for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

*DHA has not participated in the active advertising campaigns, noted in Attachment A.*

*DHA advertises its housing and relocation services to members of the Australian Defence Force, and its residential investment products to current lessors and potential investors.*
*It does not undertake campaign advertising, understood to be communicating to the public about Government programs, policies and matters which affect their benefits, rights and obligations.*

(2) In attachment A – a list of active campaigns that were tabled in on 30 October 2006 at Senate Estimates, what were the actual costs for those which have been completed as relevant to each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

*Not applicable (see answer to question 1)*

(3) At the Budget Estimates in May 2006, the Budget Papers listed the following Pending Campaigns (from Budget Papers: period up to 4 years)

| Campaign | $M |
|---|---|
| Smart Card | 47.3 |
| Child Support Reform | 36.1 |
| Promote Private Health Cover | 52.1 |
| Medicare direct mail | 17.5 |
| New family law arrangements | 19.9 |
| Independent contractors | <15 |
| Pensions real estate/assets test | 5.9 (at least, over 2 years) |
| Smart Traveller | 13.1 |
| Alcohol abuse | 25.2 |
| Citizenship | 4 |
| Disease risk factors | |
| Child care rebate | |
| Family Law arrangements | |
| Illicit drugs and mental illness | |
| Living in Harmony Initiative | |

(4) For those campaigns which are relevant to each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, what is the:
   (a) planning progress for campaigns;
   (b) likely start dates; and
   (c) media spend.

*Not applicable (see answer to question 1)*

**Question 5**

**Campaign advertising**

**Senator Wong**

For campaign advertising in each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, what is the:

(a) cost;
(b) frequency; and
(c) type/medium (e.g. print, television, media)

of campaign advertising for this financial year?

Can this information be provided on a monthly basis for the financial year?

*DHA advertises its housing and relocation services to members of the Australian Defence Force, and its residential investment products to current lessors and potential investors. It does not undertake campaign advertising, understood to be communicating to the public about Government programs, policies and matters which affect their benefits, rights and obligations.*

**Question 6**

**Recruitment agency spending**

**Senator Wong**

(1) What sum was spent on recruitment agencies in 2006 by each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

(2) Will the Minister provide a list of the recruitment agencies which are used by the department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio?

(3) What functions do recruitment agencies perform for departments and what would be the likely impact on departmental outcomes from reduction in recruitment spending on external agencies?

(4) What benefit-cost assessments have been done which benchmark internal recruitment processes and/or on utilising on line recruitment portals?

**Answer:**

*(1) $324,667.26 (GST excl) for financial year 2005/2006.*

*(2) Careers Unlimited*
*CCS Technology Recruiters*
*Clauden Pty Ltd*
*Effective People Pty Ltd*
*Frontier Group Australia Pty Ltd*
*GMT Business Services*
*Greythorn*
*Talentpartners Hansen & Searson*
*Hays Personnel Service*
*Hudson Global Resources Pty Ltd*
*Inter Staffing Services Pty Ltd*
*Julia Ross Recruitment Ltd*
*Profile Ray & Berndtson*
*Recruitment Management Company*
*SMS Consulting Group Ltd*
*Spherion Group Ltd*
*Sureway Consultants Pty Ltd*
*Workpac Brisbane Secretariat*

*(3) DHA uses the services of recruitment agencies for:*

- *temporary and contract staff. Agencies are able to provide suitably qualified staff within a short time frame;*
- *assisting with selection processes by providing qualified administration support;*
- *scribing services during the interview process; and,*
- *recruitment for high level and specialised positions when a standard internal process has not been successful.*

*A reduction in recruitment spending on external agencies would:*

- *have a negative impact on the timeliness of filling temporary and contract positions;*
- *impact on DHA's ability to recruit suitable candidates for high level and specialised positions; and,*
- *increase demand on internal resources to provide administrative support and scribing services.*

*(4) DHA is currently investigating the benefits of an on-line recruitment portal product, including reviewing potential providers.*